

Nashville Union.

For Freedom and Nationality.

H. C. MERCELL, Editor.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 10, 1862.

Mediation.

No greater misfortune could befall the American people, North and South, than an actual, or an attempt at, interference in American affairs by any, or all the great Powers of Europe. Having learned early the danger of foreign alliances and entanglements, and to avoid such, has become one of our national maxims for political safety; and having adopted this as a rule of action for the government of our own national affairs and interests, it has become, in the mind of the American people, a political virtue, and international law, that should be practised by all nations, and there should be no infringement of it, except under the compulsion of the highest laws of national safety. Having acted upon this principle in the past, with a republican form of government, and democratic institutions, of which our people are excessively jealous and watchful, and which, in our opinion, has never been duly appreciated by foreign Governments, any interference whatever, and for any cause, would be regarded as an attack upon our form of government, and a blow at our democratic institutions. Such would inevitably be the construction of the motives of interference, however well defined or explained by the Government so doing. Outside of the insolence and contempt implied, the officious intermeddling of any people or nation, with us and ours, would be resented until the national manhood was exhausted, and its spirit broken. Our people already know and feel that no people on the earth are so cramped by the civil war now raging in America, as to have an interference upon imperative national compulsion; but should such a deplorable interference occur, it would rise from the meanest of human passion, and the basest of national motives. By some it would be regarded and looked upon as officious interference, arising from a hectoring, domineering, national spirit, by others as an attempt to destroy our Republican form of Government, our Democratic institutions, and with their destruction to overturn our maxims of liberty and equality, and the blessings arising from free Government. Others again would regard it as done with a view to territorial aggrandizement, and with a view to possess themselves of our lands, our climate, and we ourselves, after being deprived of all commercial and agricultural advantages, to be made the serfs and slaves of the monarchs and powers of Europe. But where one could be found, whose objections would be based upon a single one of the above causes, there could be found ninety-nine, whose objections would be based upon all, and others far more powerful, and which would stir this mighty people from cradle to circumference.

The little hints and feelers thrown out by diplomatic ministers of European Governments, have had no good effect upon the public mind of this country, but on the contrary have intensified the feelings of our people, and made them more watchful and jealous.

We said there could be no greater misfortune, and in consequences and effects that it would end the rebellion by crushing it to atoms in one month, and with it all its friends and sympathizers every where on this continent, there could be no doubt. In view of a foreign interference, no man would stop to debate what means, whether constitutional or otherwise, should be used, and the great heart of the nation would beat wild with excitement bordering on delirium. Every man who did not espouse the nation's cause in an emergency like this, should flee the wrath to come. A million of those who are to-day the chattels—property of the South—would bear the musket and the bayonet. We trust that Europe will consider well the temper and spirit of the American people before she launches herself into such a massacre and butchery of men—in bloodshed and desolation—wide-spread and terrible.

The rebel General VAN DORN has been acquitted of the charges preferred against him by Brigadier-General JOHN S. BOWEN. The Court was composed of GEN. FLOYD, THILMAN, DABNEY H. MAURY, and STEPHEN PRICE, the latter acting as President of the Court. The charges were drunkenness, &c.

A. H. Stephens.

This gentleman, after a long quiet, has turned up at Savannah, at which place he recently made a speech, urging the citizens to defend the city. We remember to have seen sometime since a tart correspondence between Gen. Bowen, and some rich peccah farmers of that vicinity, the former urging, and the latter refusing to send their negroes to work on the fortifications of that city. We suppose STEPHENS made it all right between them.

It seems that the Confederate Government looks to Georgia to defend herself, as the Secretary of War recently informed General MORGAN, commanding at Savannah, that he would make no more efforts to secure laborers for the fortifications, and to retain no longer those so employed. The Confederate Government also refuses to permit any of the Georgia troops to return to the State for its defence. Gov. BOWEN complains bitterly of this, and says moreover, that by the conscription act this State is not permitted to call into the field for its defence any portion of its organized militia, and submits the whole matter to the Legislature. These matters the Honorable ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, thinks can all be settled by a speech from him to the people of Savannah, and therefore, we hear of him discussing the doctrines of "States Rights," and "right of self-defence," and drive back the invaders, "Savannah will never surrender," and much more to the same purpose. He should remember that a much greater than he, on hearing in Europe of the civil war in America, dismissed the whole matter with the philosophical remark that, "It is the dirtiest chimney that has been as yet built, let it burn," and if this be true, Georgia must, and will submit to the flames, and the present position of that honorable gentleman is evidence corroborative of the truth of the remark, and how humiliating to himself it must be, to find himself in the "sear and yellow leaf of life," repudiating every principle of his vigorous young manhood, and in the maintenance of which he won national honor and just fame. If there were no other cause and necessity for a revolution—for a burning out of the national chimney—the apostasy of just such men as he, would be sufficient. After this speech, made when Georgia was about to secede, and in opposition to it—a speech, could he blot out his subsequent career, would entitle him to the nation's blessings and gratitude. He stands by the mockery of his former self, and a striking illustration of the treachery and moral cowardice of man; forced to say now that all he had formerly said and taught to a confiding people was false. Struggling to unlearn them, and himself, all the lessons he had previously taught, renouncing the principles of a lifetime, no, not for ambitious purposes, but rather from moral cowardice. From the eloquent defender of the "best Government on earth," as he himself said on the occasion alluded to, he has descended to become the miserable apologist of a despotic oligarchy.

We commend to him Ewing's letters on the subject.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 29th says: "General JOHNSON and staff leave Richmond to-day for the West." They reached Murfreesboro, we learn, ten days ago.

Some of our Exchanges contain an account, of an attempt by fifteen Italians to assassinate the Emperor NAPOLEON.

Col. McRae, formerly consul to Paris, and recently commander of the 6th Regiment North Carolina Volunteers has resigned his commission, on the ground that, "consistent with his sense of dignity and self-respect, he could no longer serve the Government of the Confederate States."—Jackson Mississippi, Nov. 29th.

Sensible, Colonel, "sense of dignity and self-respect" are good reasons, and the wonder is, that such do not effect more in the same way.

THE BUELL COURT-MARTIAL.—This military tribunal, which had been in session for several days in Cincinnati, adjourned on Friday to meet in Nashville. General Buell and staff, and Generals Ord, Wallace, Schoepf, Dana, and Taylor, Judge Advocate Platt, and the Secretaries of the court passed through the city yesterday, en route for Nashville. So far the proceedings have not been made public.—Louis, Jour.

Editorial Correspondence.

LOUISVILLE, December 9.

The red light of our melancholy civil war seems to invest everything with the reflection of its own crimson light, and, attunes, all things to its mournful songs. The train of cars which left the many-billed capital of Tennessee yesterday morning for this place, did not furnish an exception to this remark; not that I mean that all the passengers, who thronged the cars, and crowded them to overflowing, were soldiers, or directly connected with the army; but somehow every man, woman, and child I saw, seemed to me a part and parcel of the great military pageant, which now shakes and appals the land with its unrelenting presence. The god of war seems to have set his seal upon the brow of every one around me; on the forehead of that young boy it glitters like the star of a vague but beautiful hope; on that of the vigorous man it blazes with the sublime aspirations of holy patriotism, or glows with the meteoric light of high-soaring ambition; and too often, alas, on the brow of a bereaved sister, or mother, or widowed wife, it shines with the sad radiance of the evening star, when it looks down through the tears of coming night, upon the grave of one who was most beloved of all upon the earth. War is the one theme of all conversations, the key-note of

"The end music of humanity."

The terrible monotony at times almost distracts me, and I feel as though it would be a welcome thing to be transported for a while to the most secluded spot in Europe—to ROBINSON CRUSOE'S Island, to the Happy Valley of RASS-LAS—

"Anywhere, anywhere, Out of the world!"

until I could find a brief refreshment and respite from the din and distraction of this unnatural war. Oftentimes, doubtless, do many others, as well as myself, find themselves harboring such unmanly and selfish thoughts, but to all of us who are worthy of the name of patriot, comes the good angel of patriotism, and, somewhat changing the sublime sentiment of the old Roman dramatic poet: "Homo sum, etc."—she whispers in our ears: "You are American citizens; nothing which concerns the Republic, should be indifferent to you." So instead of fold our arms and indulging in sentimental longings for peace, or trying to shun all responsibility and labor, in this great trial which has, by the visitation of God, befallen our country, it will be far better for us all to "act well our part" in each changing scene of the bloody drama—a drama bloodier than that in which the tragic Muse has sung the wars of the rival Houses of York and Lancaster. As such disjointed thoughts and images rushed through my mind, more rapidly than the train which bore me rushed over level plain, dizzy ravine, and through dismal tunnel, my attention was directed to a lively conversation, between two parties on my left.

"Nice gun this, sir," said a quick-eyed little gentleman, to a very civil, gentlemanly-looking young man, who had a neat shot-gun in his possession.

"Yes, sir, a very good gun."

"Nice gun," continued the first speaker, cocking and snapping it—"needs a little fixing. Going to have it repaired? Ramrod lost, too, I see?"

"Yes, sir, Captain"—took it from the rebels, and gave it to me. The interrogator's keen eyes sparkled at this last remark, and he looked as if he had found a valuable trail, and meant to trace it up. He continued:

"Taken from the rebels, eh? where at?" And he drew out a small memorandum book.

"What is the Captain's name? Who gave you this gun?"

It was given and noted down.

"And your name?"

This was also given.

"Have you a permit for this gun?"

"No, sir."

"Well, sir, I shall have to take this gun and deliver it to the Provost Marshal in Nashville. If this gun was taken as a trophy from the rebels, it belongs to the United States Government, and no officer or soldier has any right to hold or give away such captured property. If the gun was taken from the house of a citizen, although a rebel, without authority, it was a trespass upon private property, which the Government does not tolerate. You will find this gun with the Provost Marshal, with whom I shall leave it."

And saying this, he walked off, leaving his young friend not a little surprised at this new exposition of the law in reference to captured property.

I mention this incident to show what loose and incorrect ideas are entertained

by many persons in regard to "rebel property." Too many in the Federal army, whose position should teach them better, act as though persons in the employ of the Government had a right to "confiscate" whatever property, belonging to disloyal persons, they may take a fancy to. We should remember always that this war is not waged to avenge private grievances, or to enrich private persons, but to preserve the country, and vindicate national honor. Now, by the way, I must confess myself to having committed a grievous offence in this respect, inasmuch as I have in my possession a sabre of very domestic manufacture, which was captured at the memorable battle of Shiloh, by a friend of mine and presented to me; and which I have kept for the double purpose of a trophy and a poker, which last office it discharges well, owing to its great strength. Since listening to the exposition of the laws of captured property, I feel happy in stating that I am ready to account for said sabre to the Secretary of War, General ROSS, or my friend the Provost Marshal at Nashville. I am confident that several excellent horse-shoes can be made out of it. I think it is one of "Gizzard-foot" Wise's wagon-tire swords; and am sure it will tire any man to carry it. In spite of the two-thousand-and-two rumors in Nashville, which are afloat on the streets every day, of raids upon the road by MORGAN, I found everything perfectly quiet. The only difficulty was the almost interminable army freight-trains which blocked the road every few miles, and detained us every few hours. The road has been seriously interrupted during the past season, and I trust that the company and their employees may derive a rich recompense for the bold and faithful perseverance which they have shown in the face of so many difficulties. Parties who wish to ship goods to Nashville, may as well stop wishing, until the river rises sufficiently to allow the resumption of navigation, as nothing but government stores is carried in the cars, and the Express Company are taxed far beyond their capacity, in carrying packages, etc. This morning I learn that Gen. BOYLE has ordered, that nothing shall be shipped over the Nashville road but government stores, excepting of course the personal baggage of travellers, which is confined to one trunk. How long the restriction will last I cannot say. I notice divers speculators here, who appear to be in trouble.

Our impatience and charity are never so severely tested as when we are doomed to listen to the complaints of a certain set of secessionists, who have small claims against the Government for corn or other produce taken. These men have inaugurated a war that costs the Government millions—that robs almost every family of a member, and deluges the land with blood; a war that commenced in seizing the Government property everywhere—forts, arsenals, and mints; authors of a sequestration act that appropriated at least two hundred millions of dollars belonging to their creditors; men who have, against express constitutional and moral obligations, abstracted a charity, in appropriating the school fund to war purposes; spent five millions of the State Treasury, and, finally, have carried beyond the limits of the State its Bank and means of support, and now mouth and whine over a bill of twenty-five dollars against the Government, for chickens, pigs, or rails. And these men sometimes discuss among themselves the evil of foraging, its illegality and hardship, and regret that the war has become so barbarous and inhuman. Tell long and mournful tales of wrongs done to their fences or geese, and their wives and daughters are sent to procure "protections." It has sometimes appeared to us, that were we in the condition of these people a kindness from the Government or its officers would put us to the blush, and that a vast wilderness should be our abiding place, that we would hang our heads in shame, and shun society.

And some of these men were prominent in all these outrages upon the Government—aye, humanity, everywhere. "Shame, where is thy blush?" How lost and fallen these pachydermatous gentlemen.

How to Cure a Felon.—When one of these painful tormentors appears on the hand, apply a piece of rennet, soaked in milk to the affected part, and renew the application, at brief intervals, until relief is found. The rennet may be obtained of any butcher. It has been tried in many cases, and it has never failed to afford relief.

Don't take too much interest in the affairs of your neighbors. Six per cent. will do.

New Advertisements.

THEATRE.
A. B. DUFFIELD, Manager.
CLAUDE C. HAMILTON, Stage Manager.
S. T. SIMONS, Treasurer.

Wednesday Evening, Dec. 10, 1862.
DON CESAR DE BAZAN!

DANCE, MISS CONSTANTINE.
MY NEIGHBOR'S WIFE!

In preparation, RICHARD III.

B. WOOD, M.D.,
DENTIST.

No. 1 1/2 CLINTON PLACE, (EIGHTH-ST.)
Two doors West from 437 Broadway,
NEW YORK.

He would call attention to his plan of ENAMELING PLUGS in cases where the metal is exposed to view.
[Dec 10-11]

Wanted to Rent.
A DWELLING-HOUSE, CONVENIENTLY situated to the Post-office or Public Square, furnished or unfurnished, for which a liberal price will be paid.

Address "Deaver 102 Post Office."
Dec 10-31

W. H. MORGAN, D.D.S.

HAS REMOVED HIS OFFICE TO Church street, second door West of the St. Cloud Hotel, opposite the McKendree Church.
Dec 10-29

WANTED FOR CASH,
Cotton Rags,

Hemp and Damaged Cotton,
Old Rope and Gunnies,

(In large or small lots.)
INGHAM, SWIFT & CO.

FRENCH & REID'S,
Corner of Market and Clark streets.
[Dispatch copy.]

IRON—225,000 lbs., assorted Bars, and
Scales.

COOK AND SUGAR KETTLES,
SALE—100 Barrels.
For sale by WM. LYON,
41 Market street.

LOST,
FROM THE ST. CLOUD HOTEL, LAST Sunday evening, a LIGHT FELLY; and in front of Government Hotel, and South Bridge. Horse, went down Cherry street; belongs to Sheridan's Division, Nolensville Pike. A liberal reward will be paid to any one returning the same to M. D. JONES' Livery Stable, on Market street.
Dec 9-31

L. W. LITTLE.

Gas-Consumers' Notice.
YOU MUST FURNISH ALCOHOL OR STRONG Whisky to be put in your Meters to prevent freezing.

The company will send a proper person to fix all Meters whenever notified, provided you furnish the alcohol or whisky.
I will explain this: We charge no Meter rent as most Gas Companies do, to cover this expense, and at this particular time the expense would be \$1000 to \$1500 to the Company; in many cases, the cost of the alcohol would amount to more than the next three months' bill for gas.
JAS. H. KENDRICK,
Secretary.
Dec. 9th, 1862—1m

LOST! LOST!!
A COMMISSION, BELONGING TO DR. W. F. Hornbrook, 24 Acad. Ferguson 434 Regt. 1st Va. Inf. The finder will be rewarded by delivering it at this Office, or at Hospital No. 2.
Dec 9-31

Corn Meal.
FRESH CORN MEAL, delivered to all parts of the city.
Dec. 7.

Cow Feed.
In quantities to suit, sent delivered in all parts of the city.
Dec. 7.

\$25 Reward!
STRAYED OR STOLEN, from my stable on Union street, back of Old Fellows' Hall, about the 15th of November last, a small Black Horse, with curly mane, short tail, not shod, marked with only a few white spots. He was in good condition when taken. Any person leaving the said horse at Omba & Martin's Livery Stable, on College street, between Church and Broad streets, or information so I can recover him, will receive the above reward.
WILLIAM S. CHEATHAM,
Dec. 7-1m No. 20, High Street, Nashville, Tenn.

Money Wanted.
A GENTLEMAN wishes to borrow Two Thousand Dollars, at a liberal interest, for which he will give bond to satisfy parties. Any one wishing to loan, will please leave their address at this office.
Dec. 7-1m

EXCHANGE.
Sight Checks on Louisville
BOUGHT AND SOLD,
BY
A. G. SANFORD & CO.,
Exchange and Money Dealers,
31 College street, Merchants' Bank.

Quartermasters' Certificates
PURCHASED BY
CHAS. H. GREEN
OFFICE, No. 28 Cherry St., (Up Stairs.)

Notice to Non-Resident Traders.
NOTICE is hereby given, that Non-Resident Traders, Hucksters, and persons following the Game for purposes of speculation, will not be tolerated within the limits of the army, nor permitted to bring goods to the region of military.

This measure is taken to prevent the wholesale smuggling now constantly being attempted by unscrupulous and dishonest persons, as well as through a desire on the part of the Department Commander to avoid injustice to soldiers and legitimate and respectable residents of this city and State.
By command of Maj. or General W. S. LEXINGTON.
JULIUS P. GARDNER, JR.,
Assistant Adj. Gen. and Chief of Staff.
Dec. 5-31

Wanted.
100 GOOD MILCH COWS, for which the highest market price will be paid. Enquire of Burdett, Esq., No. 10 N. E. Medical Director, or J. A. Warren, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., Hospital No. 4.
Dec. 6-1m

By Telegraph.

[Special Telegraph to the "Nashville Union,"]

MIDNIGHT DESPATCHES.

Rebel Vessels Captured Off Wilmington, N. C.

Attorney General Bates's Opinion on African Citizenship.

Heavy Skirmish at Coffeville.

Rebel Army Retreating Through Oxford, Miss.

Arrival of the Steamship Arabia

Fight for the Championship of England.

Great Battle in Arkansas.

Another Brilliant Federal Victory

Forrest Reported at Clarksville.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—Twenty vessels have been captured by the Federals of Wilmington, N. C., since the 6th of November.

FREDERICKSBURG, Dec. 9.—None of the Federal army have crossed the Potomac.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Attorney-General Bates is preparing an opinion affirming the citizenship of persons of African descent under the Constitution and laws.

CAIRO, Dec. 9.—The main body of the rebel army, forty thousand strong, including a large number of the sick and wounded, passed through Oxford, Miss. on Thursday last.

HALIFAX, December 9.—The steamer Arabia, from Liverpool, has arrived.

CONSOLS 94.

OXFORD, Miss., December 9.—Colonel Dickey's cavalry were engaged for two hours with five hundred rebels, at Coffeville Friday night. Federals lost nine killed and fifty wounded. Rebel loss three hundred killed and wounded.

FOREIGN.—King beat Mace in the prize fight for the championship of England after twenty-one rounds.

LIVERPOOL.—Broadstuffs steady, provisions inactive.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Gold steady at 32 1/2.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., Dec. 9.—Gen. Herron's forces won a decisive victory over the rebels, twenty-four thousand strong, yesterday, on Crawford's Prairie, twenty miles south of here.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 9.—Gallatin advises deny any recent engagement there. It is reported that Forrest's cavalry, in considerable force, are at Clarksville today.

TRAKEY & SWAN,
Livery and Sale Stable, No. 5 College Street, keep constantly on hand Carriages, Horses and Buggies, and are at all times prepared to send parties to any part of the country.

We have 10 or 15 good work Horses and Mules for sale at low figures; also, several large and small Spring Wagons.
Nov. 27—1m.

NEW GOODS.

BOOTS & SHOES.

F. H. FRENCH,
NO. 21, PUBLIC SQUARE.

HAS JUST RECEIVED A LARGE AND Splendid stock of

LADIES' MISSES' CHILDREN'S

Colt, Kid, Goat, Glue Kid, and Lining

BOOTS, BALMORALS, & GAITERS,
Comprising everything desirable for the season, and of the best work and style.

MEN'S BOYS' YOUTH'S CHILDREN'S

Boots, Shoes, & Balmorals,
OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

MEN'S HATS
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
All of which will be sold at the lowest market price.
Dec. 8-1m